

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein; and

Please amend claims 1, 37, 39 and 41 as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for conveying filter elements to a filter element magazine, the device comprising:

a guide bearing and a channel structured and arranged to convey the filter elements in a lengthwise axial direction, the lengthwise axial direction being defined as a direction along an axis of the filter element;

a rotatable drum comprising at least one seat for receiving, in a lengthwise axial manner to the drum, a filter element conveyed to the drum via the guide bearing and the channel, the filter element being oriented in a lengthwise axial manner with respect to a conveying direction of the filter element; and

a detection device that controls a rotation of the drum and detects when an end of the filter elements element has passed the detection device as the filter element is conveyed into the drum; and

a mechanism that feeds the filter elements in a lengthwise axial manner to the drum,

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wherein the filter elements are fed by rotation of the drum to and inserted into the filter element magazine in a crosswise axial manner relative to the axis of each filter element.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the filter elements comprise filter rods.

3. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the filter elements comprise rod-shaped filter elements.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled).

6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the detection device comprises a light barrier.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the drum interacts with a mechanical element that causes a crosswise axial insertion of the filter elements into the filter element magazine.

8. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a mechanism that causes a crosswise axial insertion of the filter elements into the filter element magazine.

Claim 9. (Canceled).

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10. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the at least one seat comprises a plurality of seats.

11. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a braking element which engages the filter element.

12. (Original) The device of claim 11, wherein the braking element acts to provide braking to the filter element once the filter element is moved into the at least one seat.

13. (Original) The device of claim 11, wherein the braking element acts to provide braking to the filter element as the filter element is moved into the at least one seat.

14. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a retaining mechanism which traps the filter element after the filter element is moved into the at least one seat.

15. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the retaining mechanism is movably mounted.

16. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the retaining mechanism can move away from the drum when the drum is rotated.

17. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the drum is adapted to rotate before the filter element has reached a final position in the at least one seat.

18. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the drum includes an element for aligning the filter elements.

19. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a mechanism for aligning the filter elements on the drum.

20. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising an ejection mechanism adapted to eject defective filter elements.

21. (Original) A filter element receiver station comprising the device of claim 1.

22. (Original) An arrangement for conveying filter elements to a filter element magazine, comprising:

at least one device according to claim 1; and

the filter element magazine,

wherein the at least one device is arranged outside the filter element magazine.

23. (Original) The arrangement of claim 22, wherein the at least one device comprises a plurality of devices.

24. (Original) The arrangement of claim 23, wherein the plurality of devices comprises three devices.

25. (Original) The arrangement of claim 23, wherein the plurality of devices are arranged one below the other relative to a horizontal axis running through at least one of the plurality of devices.

Claims 26-36 (Canceled).

37. (Currently Amended) A device for conveying filter elements to a filter element magazine, the device comprising:

a rotatable drum comprising a plurality of seat grooves for receiving a filter element;

a detection device that controls a rotation of the drum and detects the filter elements by detecting when an end of a filter element has passed the detection device while being conveyed into one of the seat grooves; and

a mechanism that feeds the filter elements in a lengthwise axial manner past the detection device and then to one of the plurality of seat grooves of the drum, the lengthwise axial manner being defined as a direction along an axis of the filter element,

wherein the filter elements are fed in a crosswise axial manner to the filter element magazine by rotating the drum.

38. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 37, further comprising an arrangement for removing the filter element or a portion of the filter element from one of the plurality of the seat grooves when the detection device determines that the filter element is found to be defective.

39. (Currently Amended) A device for conveying filter elements to a filter element magazine, the device comprising:

a rotatable drum comprising a plurality of seat grooves for receiving a filter element;

a detection device that controls a rotation of the drum and detects when the filter element is entering into one of the plurality of seat grooves by detecting when an end of a filter element has passed the detection device while being conveyed into one of the seat grooves;

a mechanism that feeds the filter elements in a lengthwise axial manner past the detection device and then to one of the plurality of seat grooves of the drum, the lengthwise axial manner being defined as a direction along an axis of the filter element,

wherein the filter elements are fed to the filter element magazine by rotating the drum.

40. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 39, further comprising an arrangement for removing the filter element or a portion of the filter element from one of the plurality of the seat grooves when the detection device determines that the filter element is found to be defective.

41. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the at least one seat comprises a plurality of seat grooves, ~~and wherein the mechanism feeds the filter elements in a lengthwise axial manner past the detection device and then to one of the plurality of seat grooves of the drum.~~

42. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 41, further comprising an arrangement for removing the filter element or a portion of the filter element from one of the plurality of the seat grooves when the detection device determines that the filter element is found to be defective.

43. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 41, wherein the detection device is structured and arranged to detect when the filter element is entering into one of the plurality of seat grooves.